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Entries sought for design of Michigan Law Enforcement Memorial Monument

LANSING – Michigan architects, engineers, artists and students are invited to submit designs for a memorial to celebrate and honor the lives of law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty.

The Michigan Law Enforcement Memorial Monument will honor 529 Michigan officers who have died while serving citizens of the state. Deadline for monument design entries is noon Dec. 14, and the winner will be announced Feb. 8, 2007. Construction of the memorial is expected to begin in 2007.

"Moving the monument to the design stage is a historic milestone," said Kathy Cole, the chairperson of the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund Commission. "It represents years of hard work, hundreds of hours of preparation, and the hopes of many survivors that this memorial would become a reality."

Cole is also the widow of Sgt. Paul Cole, an Ingham County sheriff's deputy who was killed while responding to a domestic assault.

Design competition participants must be Michigan residents, complete a registration form, and submit a \$25 entry fee. One of the design standards requires the designer to include the names of all the deceased officers.

The design competition booklet, which contains the registration and entry form, can be found at the monument Web site: www.mleom.org. The Web page also includes a link where interested people can make online donations to the memorial.

Questions about the competition may be addressed to Vivian Grinnell, Department of Management and Budget, Stevens T. Mason Building, 530 W. Allegan St., Lansing, MI 48933. She can also be reached at grinnelly@michigan.gov.

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